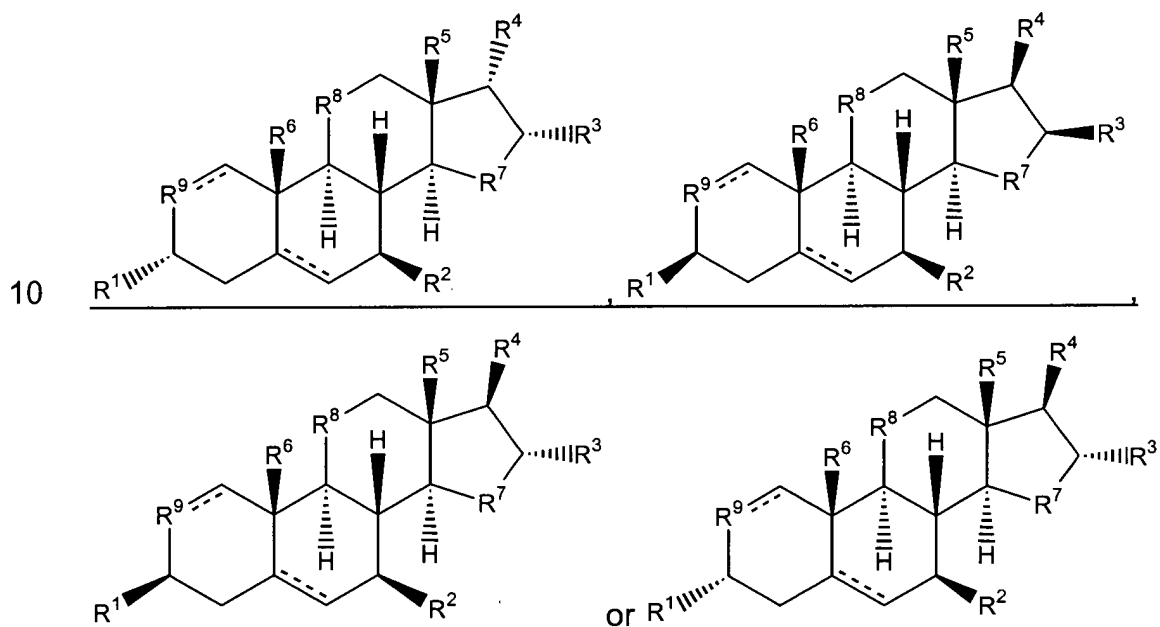


### AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This list of claims replaces the prior version of claims in the application:

5        Claims 1-49 (canceled)

50 (currently amended): A method to treat or ameliorate an inflammation condition in a subject, comprising administering to the subject an effective amount of a compound having the structure



$R^1$  is -OH, -SH, an ester, an ether, a thioester or a thioether;

$R^2$  is -H, -OH, -SH, an ester, an ether, a thioester or a thioether;

15         $R^3$  is -OH, =O, an ester, an ether, a thioester or a thioether;

$R^4$  is -OH, =O, -SH, =S, an ester an ether, a thioester or a thioether;

$R^5$  is -CH<sub>3</sub> or -CH<sub>2</sub>OH;

$R^6$  is -H or -CH<sub>3</sub>;

$R^7$  is -CH<sub>2</sub>- or -CHR<sup>10</sup>-;

20         $R^8$  is -CH<sub>2</sub>-, -O- or -NH-;

$R^9$  is -CH<sub>2</sub>-, -CHR<sup>10</sup>-, -O- or -NH-; and

R<sup>10</sup> independently are -OH, an ester, an ether, -SH, a thioester, a thioether or a halogen.

Claims 51-53 (canceled)

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Claim 54 (new): The method of claim 50 wherein R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> are -OH, R<sup>2</sup> is -H and R<sup>4</sup> is =O.

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Claim 55 (new): The method of claim 50 wherein R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> are -OH and R<sup>2</sup> is -H.

Claim 56 (new): The method of claim 50 wherein R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> are -OH.

15

Claim 57 (new): The method of claim 50 wherein the inflammation condition is atopic asthma, allergic respiratory disease, allergic rhinitis, atopic dermatitis, subepithelial fibrosis in airway hyperresponsiveness, chronic sinusitis, perennial allergic rhinitis, allergic bronchopulmonary aspergillosis in cystic fibrosis patients, Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis, inflammatory bowel disease or fibrosing alveolitis.

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Claim 58 (new): The method of claim 57 wherein R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> are -OH, R<sup>2</sup> is -H and R<sup>4</sup> is =O.

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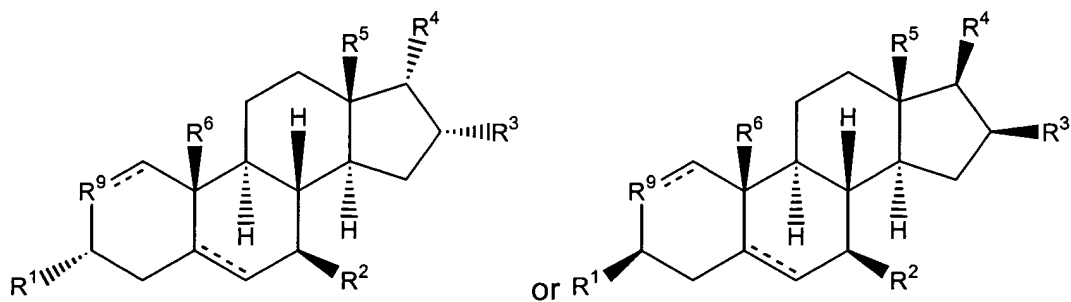
Claim 59 (new): The method of claim 57 wherein R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> are -OH and R<sup>2</sup> is -H.

Claim 60 (new): The method of claim 57 wherein R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> are -OH.

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Claim 61 (new): The method of claim 57 wherein the inflammation condition is atopic asthma.

5      Claim 62 (new): The method of claim 61 wherein the compound has the structure



10      Claim 63 (new): The method of claim 62 wherein R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> are -OH, R<sup>2</sup> is -H and R<sup>4</sup> is =O.

Claim 64 (new): The method of claim 62 wherein R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> are -OH and R<sup>2</sup> is -H.

15      Claim 65 (new): The method of claim 62 wherein R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> are -OH.

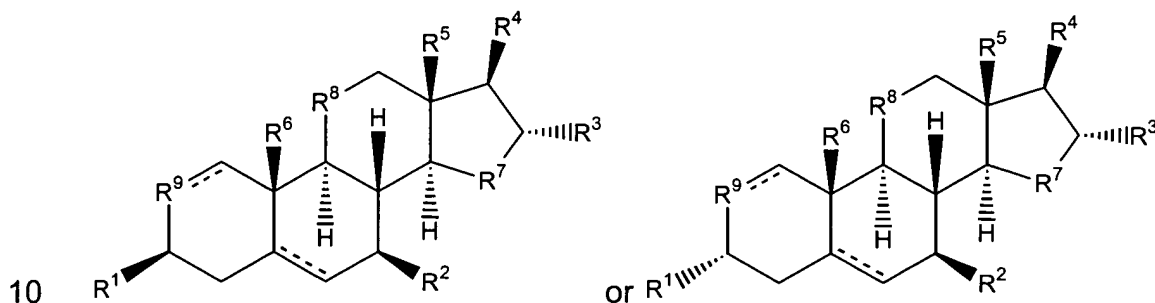
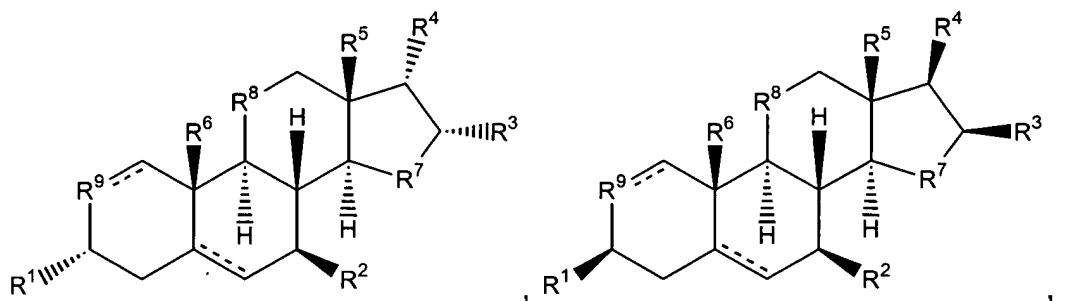
20      Claim 66 (new): The method of claim 62 wherein the compound is 3 $\beta$ ,7 $\beta$ ,16 $\alpha$ ,17 $\beta$ -tetrahydroxyandrost-5-ene, 3 $\alpha$ ,7 $\beta$ ,16 $\alpha$ ,17 $\beta$ -tetrahydroxyandrost-5-ene, 3 $\beta$ ,7 $\beta$ ,16 $\beta$ ,17 $\beta$ -tetrahydroxyandrost-5-ene, 3 $\beta$ ,7 $\alpha$ ,16 $\alpha$ ,17 $\beta$ -tetrahydroxyandrost-5-ene, 3 $\beta$ ,7 $\alpha$ ,16 $\alpha$ ,17 $\alpha$ -tetrahydroxyandrost-5-ene, 3 $\beta$ ,7 $\beta$ ,16 $\alpha$ ,17 $\beta$ -tetrahydroxyandrost-1,5-diene, 3 $\alpha$ ,7 $\beta$ ,16 $\alpha$ ,17 $\beta$ -tetrahydroxyandrost-1,5-diene, 3 $\beta$ ,7 $\beta$ ,16 $\beta$ ,17 $\beta$ -tetrahydroxyandrost-1,5-diene, 3 $\beta$ ,7 $\alpha$ ,16 $\alpha$ ,17 $\beta$ -tetrahydroxyandrost-5-ene, 3 $\beta$ ,7 $\alpha$ ,16 $\alpha$ ,17 $\alpha$ -tetrahydroxyandrost-5-ene, 3 $\beta$ ,16 $\alpha$ ,17 $\beta$ -trihydroxy-5 $\alpha$ -androstane, 3 $\alpha$ ,16 $\alpha$ ,17 $\alpha$ -trihydroxy-5 $\alpha$ -androstane, 3 $\alpha$ ,16 $\beta$ ,17 $\beta$ -trihydroxy-5 $\alpha$ -androstane, 3 $\beta$ ,16 $\beta$ ,17 $\beta$ -trihydroxy-5 $\alpha$ -

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androstane, 3 $\beta$ ,16 $\alpha$ -dihydroxy-17-oxo-5 $\alpha$ -androstane, 3 $\beta$ ,16 $\beta$ -dihydroxy-17-oxo-5 $\alpha$ -androstane or 3 $\alpha$ ,16 $\alpha$ -dihydroxy-17-oxo-5 $\alpha$ -androstane.

Claim 67 (new): The method of claim 66 wherein the compound is 3 $\beta$ ,16 $\alpha$ -  
 5 dihydroxy-17-oxo-5 $\alpha$ -androstane.

Claim 68 (new): A formulation comprising one or more excipients and a compound having the structure



wherein, the dotted lines are optional double bonds;

R<sup>1</sup> is -OH, -SH, an ester, an ether, a thioester or a thioether;

R<sup>2</sup> is -H, -OH, -SH, an ester, an ether, a thioester or a thioether;

R<sup>3</sup> is -OH, =O, an ester, an ether, a thioester or a thioether;

15 R<sup>4</sup> is -OH, =O, -SH, =S, an ester an ether, a thioester or a thioether;

R<sup>5</sup> is -CH<sub>3</sub> or -CH<sub>2</sub>OH;

R<sup>6</sup> is -H or -CH<sub>3</sub>;

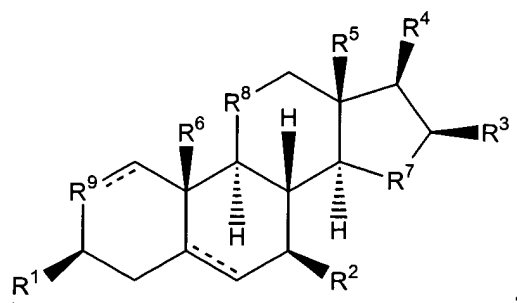
R<sup>7</sup> is -CH<sub>2</sub>- or -CHR<sup>10</sup>-;

R<sup>8</sup> is -CH<sub>2</sub>-, -O- or -NH-;

20 R<sup>9</sup> is -CH<sub>2</sub>-, -CHR<sup>10</sup>-, -O- or -NH-; and

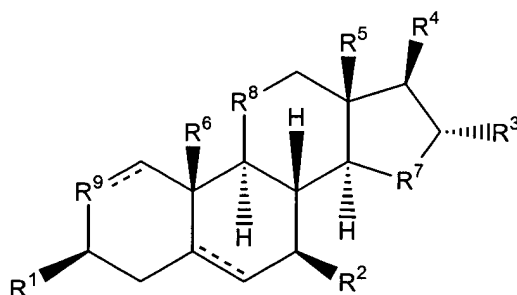
R<sup>10</sup> independently are -OH, an ester, an ether, -SH, a thioester, a thioether or a halogen.

Claim 69 (new): The formulation of claim 68 wherein the compound has the structure

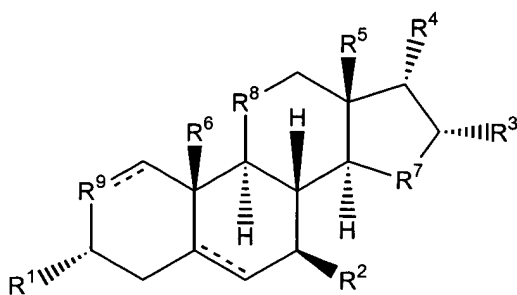


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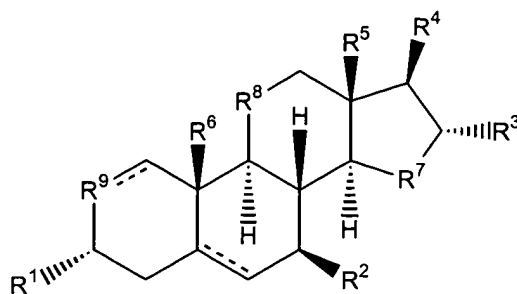
Claim 70 (new): The formulation of claim 68 wherein the compound has the structure



10 Claim 71 (new): The formulation of claim 68 wherein the compound has the structure



15 Claim 72 (new): The formulation of claim 68 wherein the compound has the structure



Claim 73 (new): The formulation of claim 68 wherein the compound is  
3 $\beta$ ,7 $\beta$ ,16 $\alpha$ ,17 $\beta$ -tetrahydroxyandrost-5-ene, 3 $\alpha$ ,7 $\beta$ ,16 $\alpha$ ,17 $\beta$ -tetrahydroxyandrost-5-  
5 ene, 3 $\beta$ ,7 $\beta$ ,16 $\beta$ ,17 $\beta$ -tetrahydroxyandrost-5-ene, 3 $\beta$ ,7 $\alpha$ ,16 $\alpha$ ,17 $\beta$ -  
tetrahydroxyandrost-5-ene, 3 $\beta$ ,7 $\alpha$ ,16 $\alpha$ ,17 $\alpha$ -tetrahydroxyandrost-5-ene,  
3 $\beta$ ,16 $\alpha$ ,17 $\beta$ -trihydroxy-5 $\alpha$ -androstane, 3 $\alpha$ ,16 $\alpha$ ,17 $\alpha$ -trihydroxy-5 $\alpha$ -androstane,  
3 $\alpha$ ,16 $\beta$ ,17 $\beta$ -trihydroxy-5 $\alpha$ -androstane, 3 $\beta$ ,16 $\beta$ ,17 $\beta$ -trihydroxy-5 $\alpha$ -androstane,  
3 $\beta$ ,16 $\alpha$ -dihydroxy-17-oxo-5 $\alpha$ -androstane, 3 $\beta$ ,16 $\beta$ -dihydroxy-17-oxo-5 $\alpha$ -  
10 androstane or 3 $\alpha$ ,16 $\alpha$ -dihydroxy-17-oxo-5 $\alpha$ -androstane.

Claim 74 (new): The formulation of claim 68 wherein the formulation is a  
liquid for parenteral administration.

15 Claim 75 (new): The formulation of claim 68 wherein the liquid is a non-  
aqueous solution containing less than about 0.3% v/v water or a suspension in  
an aqueous liquid.

20 Claim 76 (new): The formulation of claim 68 wherein the formulation is a  
solid suitable for oral, buccal, sublingual or aerosol administration.